



Thurston County Fire Protection District 8

SOUTH BAY NEWS

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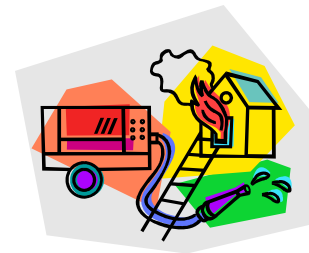
Upcoming Events



- ♦ May 1
BoFC Mtg 8 am
- ♦ May 4
Business/Assc Mtg
- ♦ May 10
Mother's Day
- ♦ May 11
Management Mtg
OTEP Death & Dying
- ♦ May 15
BoFC Mtg 12 noon
- ♦ May 17 -23
EMS Week
- ♦ May 25
Memorial Day
- ♦ June 1
Business/Assc Mtg
- ♦ June 5
BoFC Mtg 8 am
- ♦ June 8
Medic 1 Update
- ♦ June 14
Flag Day
- ♦ June 16
Graduation
- ♦ June 19
BoFC Mtg 12 noon
- ♦ June 21
Father's Day
- ♦ June 22
OTEP Cardiac
Emergencies
- ♦ June 29
MVA Multi-Co Evolution

Got the Chief's Attention on ITAC:

- ♦ First in officer primary responsibility: **PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION**
- ♦ What do we call each other: USE THE COMPANY DESIGNATOR, **except**,
- ♦ When personnel are assigned a **command or general staff position** in ICS
- ♦ When making assignments: WHO does WHAT WHERE
- ♦ Officer during tactical assignment: focus on CARE, not the nozzle
 - **C**onditions (are they changing?)
 - **A**ir
 - **R**adio traffic (LISTEN)
 - **E**gress
- ♦ Zero visibility: **STOP DO NOT ADVANCE**
- ♦ Status reports (used to be called "PAR"?): PACT
 - **P**rogress "in progress," "complete," "nothing found"
 - **A**ir (see CARE)
 - **C**onditions (see CARE)
 - **T**eam (all members are accounted for)
- ♦ Four Box Progression:
 - Arrival report (windshield)
 - Big Six Size-up (360 walk around)
 - Size up report (to responding units & CapCom)
 - Command Post ("establish command")
- ♦ **Coordinated** Fire Attack (used to be known as "Standard Evolution"?)
 - Water supply established (really!)
 - Stand-by team (2-out, and ready!)
 - Ventilation effective (generally horizontal with PPV on & going)
 - Confine & Extinguish Team (2 plus FFs in full PPE, TIC, radio & hoseline)
 - Command Post established (*not* roving command)
- ♦ When considering additional resources based on IAP, consider:
 - Unfilled assignments on your IAP, and
 - Exchange teams for folks now engaged
- ♦ When ACKNOWLEDGE is important (use of "fireground signal"?):
 - Changes in the IAP & disasters
- ♦ RIT or not to RIT:
 - Before committing two companies into the hazardous area (third arriving engine company)



**EMS WEEK
MAY 17-23,
2009**

OTEP REMINDERS

Don't forget to log-on to www.emsonline.net to complete your online training (OTEP) prior to the scheduled practical session. The following practicals **MUST** be completed on-line prior to attending drill.

- May 11—Death & Dying
- June 22—Cardiac Emergencies

SBFD ASSOCIATION ON THE WEB

If you have visited our web site lately you will notice a new page dedicated to the South Bay Fire Fighter's Association. On it is a calendar with activities as well as other helpful information.

If you haven't logged into the site before, we encourage you to sign up. Some information on the site is for *members only* so you must register as a member. To do this simply go to the site, click

on *Staff Login* then *New Staff Registration* then following the prompts. Once you've created your username, call Heidi so she can 'certify you' as a user.

You can use our web site to access important information such as drill & shift schedules, shift assignments, policies and procedures, important announcements and more. Plus, you can check out the new Association page.

"Volunteer activities can foster enormous leadership skills. The non professional volunteer world is a laboratory for self-realization."

THURSTON COUNTY EMS AGENCY MESSAGE REGARDING SWINE FLU APRIL 29, 2009

Situation report: there has been an outbreak of a novel influenza virus that WHO/CDC have labeled as Swine Flu (subtype H1N1). You have all been hearing about it in the NEWS media. We have been informing your departments about cases and information as they unfold. Regular Communicable Disease Updates are being produced by the Thurston County Health Department and sent to your agencies.

Currently there are no confirmed cases in Washington state but the number of Swine Flu cases in the world and USA is increasing. There could be cases in the state that are not yet discovered. The virus seems to be very contagious but not as dangerous as the Avian flu we have been planning for. To complicate the situation the annual flu is currently active all over Washington. We have opened our pandemic influenza plan and started through our planning matrix and checklists. CAPCOM has added screening questions to the CBD questions for respiratory and will advise incoming units of that status. (Screening question below) The Swine flu virus is sensitive to oseltamivir (Tamiflu) and zanamivir (Relenza). That is good news as a vaccine hasn't been developed yet, the annual flu vaccine is not effective against this virus. Health Department has activated its planning process and the State Health Department has requested the deployment of a portion of the Strategic National Stockpile to Washington. Operational impact:

Given the above situation EMS personnel should:

- Be aware of your response type and screening information from CAP COM
- Implement Body Substance Isolation and use PPE as appropriate.
- Place a surgical mask or oxygen mask (as appropriate) on sick patients
- Wash your hands and use sanitizer frequently
- Decontaminate equipment and surfaces between each patient as appropriate
- If BVM/ventilator is used, attached HEP A filter to BVM/ventilator exhaust
- Optimize airflow through transport units, front to rear exhaust
- Notify receiving center hospital if you have taken influenza precautions with the patient
- Transport to designated flu receiving center if one is designated (an alert will be sent if that happens, one has not been designated currently)
- Use cough etiquette and instruct family and patient to do so
- Stay home if you are sick, notify your employer

Screening Tool for Suspect Cases of Swine Flu

1. Does the patient have a fever > 37.8 O C (100F) plus cough or sore throat?
2. Has the patient traveled to any of the following affected areas in the last 7 days **OR** had contact with a person with febrile respiratory illness who was in these areas in the last 7 days? :
 - a. Texas (near San Antonio)
 - b. California (San Diego and Imperial County = the two most southern counties of California that border Mexico)
 - c. New York city
 - d. Ohio
 - e. Kansas
 - f. Mexico

If the answer to both questions 1 and 2 is "YES":

Implement airborne precautions and enhance front to rear airflow in transport unit. Place a surgical mask (or oxygen mask if appropriate) on the patient Personal protective equipment (PPE) for direct patient care includes, gloves, gown, eye protection, P APR or N-95 respirator mask



What is H1N1 Flu?

- H1N1 (Swine) flu is a respiratory disease that is spread from person-to-person by coming into contact with the germs spread when someone who is infected coughs or sneezes.
- Infection occurs when the swine flu virus gets into someone's airway and lungs.
- H1N1 flu is a virus that is normally found in pigs, but the type we are seeing now is new.
- H1N1 flu is not something you can get swine flu from eating pork or pork products.

What are the Symptoms of H1N1 Flu?

- H1N1 flu does not look like the common cold, but is like other types of influenza (flu) in that a key symptom is fever.
- The symptoms you would want to look for include fever, cough and sore throat. In addition, fatigue, lack of appetite, runny nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea have been reported.

How do I protect myself? (Prevention)

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands with soap and water frequently, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get sick, stay home and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Emergency Medical care should be taken if someone is having any of following warning signs.

In children, emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include:

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough
- Fever with a rash

In adults, emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
- Sudden dizziness
- Confusion
- Severe or persistent vomiting